On-Street Civil Parking Enforcement Observation Periods – Adur District

When a vehicle is parked in contravention of the regulations, and depending upon the type of restriction, the Civil Enforcement Officer will observe the vehicle for a certain period of time before issuing a Penalty Charge Notice.

An observation period is primarily designed to ensure that the vehicle is not engaged in an exempt activity, such as loading or unloading.

The observation times are summarised in the table below, which, for ease of reference, also contains grace periods:

Type of Restriction	**Observation Period**
Waiting restrictions	
Active Single yellow line	5 minutes — car or van
Double yellow line	5 minutes — car or van
Loading restrictions	
Active loading restriction	Nil
Other restrictions	
Parked on zigzags	Nil
Bus stop clearway	Nil
Pedestrian Zone	Nil
Misuse disabled badge	Nil
Parking places	
Free bay	Nil after expiry of time limit
Loading bays	5 minutes – car 10 minutes – van/lorry
Suspended bays	Nil
Incorrect class of vehicle	Nil
Outside bay markings	Nil
Any other breach of parking/regulations	5 minutes

NB. If active loading is witnessed during the observation period (in a location where loading is permitted) then up to 30 minutes should be allowed or longer if necessary.